



# PREACHING PLAN

October to December 2024

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Bishop with oversight for the UK: Bishop Keith Cowart</b>       |                               |
| <b>Free Methodist Church UK National Leader: Rev. John Townley</b> |                               |
| <b>Wiltshire Leadership Team</b>                                   |                               |
| <b>Foundation Pastor</b>   | Rev. George Nuttall           |
| <b>Pastor</b>  | <i>To take up appointment</i> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>   | Philip Boulton                |
| <b>Leader</b>  | Lou Ashford                   |
| <b>Leader</b>  | Glenys Baker                  |
| <b>Leader/Trustee</b>  | Andrew Fleet                  |

***Freedom Church Wiltshire is part of the Freedom Churches Network  
– a Charitable Trust***

|                         |       | October 2024                  |                             |                  |                     |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Venue                   | Time  | 6 <sup>th</sup>               | 13 <sup>th</sup>            | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 27 <sup>th</sup>    |
| Theme:                  |       |                               | Harvest                     |                  |                     |
| Bible Reading           |       |                               |                             |                  |                     |
| Brinkworth Village Hall | 10.30 | Rev. Derek Balsdon<br>HC + GN | Lou Ashford                 |                  | Rev. George Nuttall |
| Wanborough Village Hall | 10.30 |                               |                             | Mike Ashford     |                     |
| Other (tba)             |       |                               | 12.15 p.m.<br>Harvest Lunch |                  |                     |

### DREAM TEAM

King Solomon wrote: **“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their endeavours: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But, pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.”** (Ecclesiastes 4:9 -12). The Bible gives good evidence that God designed us to work together in teams. **Nehemiah** was called by God to re-build the wall and gates of Jerusalem and he organised the work in forty-two teams, each completing a section of the wall. Each team worked alongside the others. The word ‘next’ is mentioned 26 times in Nehemiah chapter 3!

**Jesus** used teams. He trained a team of 12 apostles (Matthew 10:2-4) and he was supported in his ministry by a significant group of women including Mary Magdeline, Mary and Martha of Bethany, Susannah and Joanna (Luke 8:1-3 & Luke 10:38-42). All were such different characters with gifts and weaknesses, yet he taught and shared with them together and they were the bedrock of the early church.

As his ministry expanded Jesus appointed 72 others – sending them out in teams of two – to carry His good news to the towns and villages (Luke 10:1-17).

**Paul** used teams on his missionary journeys to the Gentiles. Barnabas was on the first journey, Silas and Timothy on the second and Luke on the third. And in those early churches that were established across Roman world Paul established teams of elders who provided leadership and a team of deacons who served the churches (1 Timothy 3:1-13). And the teaching of the early church was towards teamwork.

**Peter** urged Christians to love each other, sharing their homes with those in need of a meal or a place to stay. He said: **“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts, so use them well to serve one another”** (1 Peter 4:8-10).

|                                | <b>November</b>       |                           |                        |                                      |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                | <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>17<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>24<sup>th</sup></b>               |
| <b>Theme:</b>                  |                       | <b>Remembrance Sunday</b> |                        | <b>Christ and the Kingdom of God</b> |
| <b>Brinkworth Village Hall</b> |                       | <b>Rev. Derek Balsdon</b> |                        | <b>Rev. George Nuttall HC</b>        |
| <b>Wanborough Village Hall</b> | <b>Lou Ashford</b>    |                           | <b>Andrew Fleet</b>    |                                      |
| <b>Other (tba)</b>             |                       |                           |                        |                                      |

### **PREACHERS**

**Rev. George Nuttall [GN]**

**Lou Ashford [LA]**

**Mike Ashford [MA]**

**Andrew Fleet [AF]**

### **GUEST PREACHERS**

**Rev. Derek Balsdon**

[Pastor designate]

**James Thring**

[Highworth Community Church]

As each part of a human body makes the whole, so each Christian has a different role in the church, but we are to work together harmoniously (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). In the first century church the plurality of **elders leading** planted churches, with **deacons serving** those churches was the standard model as evidenced in the book of Acts (Acts 11:30; 14:23; 15:2; 20:17) and in early texts e.g. The Didache - the teaching of the 12 apostles. It was only as years went by that multi-layered leadership structures replaced the team model.

So, as **Freedom Church Wiltshire** we have been led to model our leadership on those early Christians. Every member of the church has a part to play, with gifts and graces which enhance the whole body. The leadership operates as a team, each with particular responsibilities. Those with contributions, outside the leadership team, add to our worship, hospitality, organisation, mission and ministry - we support one another as a team. Paul reminds us how we each have our different roles in order to **“prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ might be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God”** (Ephesians 4:12) .... complete fulness in Jesus. That truly is team-play!

| December                  |                           |                           |                                     |                                    |                            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>           | 8 <sup>th</sup>           | 15 <sup>th</sup>          | 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    | 29 <sup>th</sup>                   |                            |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> in Advent | 2 <sup>nd</sup> in Advent | 3 <sup>rd</sup> in Advent | 4 <sup>th</sup> in Advent<br>Carols | 1 <sup>st</sup> after<br>Christmas |                            |
|                           |                           |                           |                                     |                                    |                            |
|                           | Lou Ashford               |                           | Andrew<br>Fleet                     |                                    | Brinkworth<br>Village Hall |
| James Thring<br>AF        |                           | Rev. George<br>Nuttall HC |                                     |                                    | Wanborough<br>Village Hall |
|                           |                           |                           |                                     |                                    | Other<br>tba               |



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Worship Leaders for guest preachers are shown in red:

**GN** = George Nuttall **LA** = Lou Ashford **AF** = Andrew Fleet

**HC** = Holy Communion